

I hereby certify that at the Annual Town Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Abington held on April 2, 2012, a meeting duly called and conducted under Chapter 152 of the General Bylaws of the Town of Abington, a quorum being present, it was voted:

Article 15: Articles 15A – 15N propose amendments to the Town Charter and Bylaws, as specified. The Moderator announces that we will be voting on each section separately. Article 15 J not passed.

#### **Article 15L. Distribution of Warrant**

Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to amend the Charter to change the process for making the warrant available prior to Town Meeting by revising Section 2-8 by deleting the strikethrough text and inserting the bold, underlined text, as follows; provided however that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition: As amended from the floor.

Voted to amend this article further in section 152.2, section B to clarify the language “and post a printable edition of the warrant on the Town’s website.”

Every town meeting shall be called by a warrant issued by the Board of Selectmen which shall state the date, time and place at which the meeting is to be convened and, by separate articles, the subject matter to be acted upon. ~~In addition to any notice required by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Board of Selectmen shall cause the annual and any special town meeting warrant to be mailed to each residence of one or more voters in the town. Such distribution shall occur at least fourteen days prior the town meeting. Failure of a voter to receive such warrant shall not invalidate the action of the meeting.~~ **Notice of an annual or special town meeting shall be provided in the manner prescribed by the General Laws and bylaws.** The original copies of all warrants for town meeting shall be kept in the office of the town clerk in a record book maintained for that purpose.

And further, that Section 152-2 of the Town’s General Bylaws be amended by deleting the text and title of said section, which provides:

#### **152.2 Delivery and Posting of Warrant**

A copy of the warrant for every Annual and Special Town meeting, with a notice of the time and place of holding the same, shall be mailed or delivered to each residence of one or more registered voters in town and in addition thereto a copy of said Warrant and notice shall be posted at the post offices and two or more other public places in Town, and shall be posted on the Town’s website, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 10.

And inserting in place thereof the following:

152.2 Warrants for Special and Annual Town Meetings

A. Posting. A copy of the warrant for every annual and special town meeting shall be posted at the post offices and two or more other public places in Town in accordance with the requirements of General Laws, Chapter 39, and Section 10.

B. Availability of Warrants and Notice thereof. Forthwith following execution of the warrant, the Town shall post a printable version of the warrant on the Town's website, make copies available at the Town Offices and Public Library, and, to the extent feasible, at two additional publicly-accessible locations in Town.

C. Postcard Notice. No later than one week prior to the date of town meeting, a postcard notice shall be delivered to the post office for mailing to each residence of one or more registered voters in the town setting forth, at a minimum, the date, time and place of the town meeting, as well as language similar to the following:

The warrant and Finance Committee recommendations may be viewed at the Town Clerk's office at (address) or on the Town's website at (address). Contact the Town Clerk at (phone number) to request a paper copy of the warrant.

D. Validity of Meeting. While it is the intent of this bylaw that every effort shall be made to file, post, and comply with the mailing and copying requirements set forth in Sections 152.2(B) and (C), failure to do so shall not invalidate the action of the meeting.

Provided, however, that the bylaw amendment approved hereunder shall not take effect until the special legislation authorized herein shall have been approved and all the provisions of G.L. c.40, §32 have been met.

**A majority vote**

A true record,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Linda C. Adams

Town Clerk

Voted: April 2, 2012

Approved: August 28, 2012

Posted: August 28, 2012